

*Application No. 10/622,919*

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A fishing line container assembly, comprising:  
a first spool of fishing line;  
a fishing line compartment including:  
a first flap having an outer area and an inner area, and  
at least a first strap including a single strap element with both an attached end and an attaching end, wherein said attached end and said attaching end of said single strap element are not separable from one another, wherein said attached end is fixed to said inner area of said first flap, wherein said attaching end includes a fastening element, wherein said first strap has an open state and a closed state, said first strap being usable to join ~~[[a]]~~ said first spool of fishing line to said first flap when said first strap is in said closed state, wherein in said open state and in said closed state said attaching end is interconnected to a first piece of material included in said inner area of said first flap through a middle portion of said single strap element, and wherein in said closed state said attaching end of said single strap element is also releasably fixed to said first piece of material included in said inner area of said first flap by interconnecting said fastening element included in said attaching end to a fastening element that is one of included in said attached end of said first strap and fixed to said first piece of material included in said inner area of said first flap to form a closed loop.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 wherein said first strap includes a Velcro® strap.

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5. (Previously Presented) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 wherein said first flap has a hinged section and a movable section and in which said attached end is located closer to said movable section than to said hinged section.

6. (Original) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 wherein said first strap has a length and said inner area has a lateral extent and in which said first strap length is greater than one-half of said lateral extent.

7. (Previously Presented) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 further comprising a second strap usable in joining a second spool to said flap, said second strap being spaced along a longitudinal extent of said first flap from said first strap.

8. (Currently Amended) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 wherein said fastening element at said attaching end of said first strap element comprises a first portion of a snap connection on a first side of said strap and is joined to said fastening element at said attached end of said first strap element by a snap connection to provide said closed state, wherein said fastening element at said attached end of said first strap comprises a second portion of said snap connection on said first side of said strap.

9. (Currently Amended) A fishing line container assembly, comprising:  
a fishing line compartment including:  
a flap having an outer area and an inner area, said inner area having a longitudinal extent,  
at least a first strap having an attached end and being defined by an open state and a closed state, said first strap being usable to join a first spool to said flap when said first strap is in said closed state; and

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at least a first cover, said at least a first cover fixed to said first flap on a first side of said first strap along a line that is substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal extent of said inner area of said flap and on a second side of said first strap along a line that is substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal extent of said inner area of said flap, wherein a free edge of said at least a first cover that is substantially parallel to said longitudinal extent of said inner area of said flap creates a sleeve or pocket capable of receiving at least a portion of said first strap.

10. (Original) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 9 wherein said first cover has at least a first connection segment joined to said flap.

11. (Previously Presented) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 9 wherein said first cover has a lateral extent extending laterally along said first flap and in which said first cover lateral extent is less than the length of said first strap.

12. (Original) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 9 wherein said attached end is laterally spaced from said first cover.

13. (Original) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 9 further comprising a second cover having at least a first connection segment joined to said flap and said first cover has a second connection segment joined to said flap adjacent to said first connection segment of said second cover.

14. (Currently Amended) A fishing line container assembly, comprising:  
a fishing line compartment including:  
a flap having an outer area and an inner area,

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at least a first strap having an attached end and being defined by an open state and a closed state, said first strap being usable to join a first spool to said flap when said first strap is in said closed state, ~~wherein said first flap includes a first piece of material forming an exterior of said fishing line compartment~~ and at least a first access hole for receiving fishing line therethrough, wherein said access hole is formed entirely within a perimeter of said first a piece of material forming at least a portion of said exterior of said fishing line compartment.

15. (Currently Amended) A fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 further including at least a primary container area joined to but spaced from said fishing line compartment, wherein said piece of material forming at least a portion of said exterior of said fishing line compartment comprises a panel interconnecting said flap to said primary container area.

16. (Original) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 further comprising a support subassembly for holding at least said fishing line compartment adjacent to a user's body.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating use of fishing line by a fisher, comprising:  
providing at least a first spool having a bore and fishing line;  
providing a fishing tackle pack having at least a first compartment;  
inserting a strap having an attached end and an attaching end through said bore,  
wherein said strap is interconnected at said fixed end to an interior surface of said at least a first compartment;  
establishing a closed state of said strap and forming a loop by interconnecting said attaching end of said strap to said attached end, wherein at a first section between said

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~~bore and an outer circumference said spool is held by said strap, and wherein at a second section between said bore and said outer circumference that is diametrically opposite said first section said spool is free from said strap; and~~

threading locating said fishing line from said first spool through a hole formed through a panel of said at least a first compartment for use by the fisher.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 17 further including creating tension on said fishing line when pulled from said first spool using at least portions of said strap within said bore.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 17 wherein ~~said strap has an attached end and an attaching end and in which said inserting step includes inserting said attaching end through said bore, and wherein said establishing a closed state of said strap includes securing said attaching end to one of said attached end and an area proximate to said attached end.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 17, wherein said inserting step is performed while said first compartment is open, said method further comprising:  
after said inserting step and prior to said threading step, placing said first spool under wherein a cover, wherein said cover overlies at least portions of said first spool;  
and

after said placing said first spool under a cover, closing said first compartment.

21. (Original) The method of Claim 20 wherein said inserting step includes inserting said strap while said bore is located outwardly of said cover.

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22. (Original) The method of Claim 21 wherein said locating step includes positioning at least portions of said first spool under said cover.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein in said closed state of said strap, a first surface of said strap at a first location along said strap is adjacent said first surface of said strap at a second location along said strap, wherein in said closed state said first and second locations are not within an outside diameter of said at least a first spool.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein in said closed state said strap encloses an area having a length that is less than a diameter of said first spool.

25. (New) A fishing tackle pack, comprising:  
a first compartment including at least first and second panels joined to one another along a first seam, wherein said first seam includes a longitudinal extent;  
a first strap, including:  
a first end fixed to said first panel;  
a second end that is joined to said first panel through said first end;  
a first fastening element at said second end;  
a second fastening element that: 1) in a first mode of operation is mated with said first fastening element of said first strap, wherein said first strap forms a closed loop; and 2) in a second mode of operation is not mated with said first fastening element of said first strap, wherein said second end of said first strap is free and is joined to said first panel only through said first end of said first strap;  
a first access hole in a perimeter of said second panel;

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a cover fixed to said first panel along at least first and second parallel lines that are perpendicular to said longitudinal extent of said first seam, wherein at least a first free edge portion of said cover is formed between said first and second parallel lines.

26. (New) The pack of Claim 25, wherein said first access hole is round.

27. (New) The pack of Claim 26, wherein a perimeter of said first access hole defined by a grommet.

28. (New) The pack of Claim 25, further comprising:

a second strap, including:

a first end fixed to said first panel;

a second end that is joined to said first panel through said first end;

a first fastening element at said second end;

a third fastening element that: 1) in a first mode of operation is mated with said first fastening element of said second strap, wherein said second strap forms a closed loop; and 2) in a second mode of operation is not mated with said first fastening element of said second strap, wherein said second end of said second strap is free and is joined to said first panel only through said first end of said first strap;

a second access hole, wherein said cover is additionally fixed to said first panel along at least a third line that is perpendicular to said longitudinal extent of said first seam, wherein at least a second free edge portion of said cover is formed between said second and third parallel lines.

29. (New) The pack of Claim 28, further comprising:

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a second compartment, wherein said second panel of said first compartment is fixed to a first panel of said second compartment along a second seam that is parallel to said first seam, wherein said first panel of said first compartment comprises a first flap;

a zipper, wherein in a closed state of said zipper an end of said first flap opposite said first seam is joined to said second compartment, wherein in an open state said end of said first flap opposite said first seam is free, and wherein in said closed state said cover is completely contained within said first compartment.